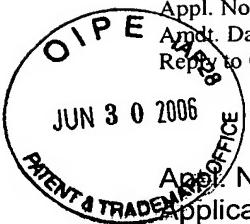


Appl. No. 10/825,504
Amdt. Dated June 26, 2006
Reply to Office action of March 24, 2006

ITPw



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/825,504
Applicant : Volker Derflinger et al.
Filed : April 15, 2004
Title : WORK PIECE WITH A HARD FILM OF AlCr-CONTAINING MATERIAL, AND PROCESS FOR ITS PRODUCTION

Conf. No. : 8570
TC/A.U. : 1775
Examiner : Archene A. Turner

Customer No. : 000,116
Docket No. : 35523US1

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT "B"

Sir:

This Amendment is filed in response to the Office action dated March 24, 2006. The three-month period to respond was set to expire June 24, 2006. However, because June 24, 2006 was a Saturday, this paper is timely filed on the next-succeeding business day, Monday, June 26, 2006 as evidenced by the certificate of mailing below. Accordingly, no extension fee is believed due.

Please amend the application in the following manner.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

Steven J. Solomon

Name of Attorney for Applicant(s)

June 26, 2006

Signature of Attorney/Date